



## OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

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## Protection of Civilians Weekly Report

7 March – 13 March 2007

Of note this week

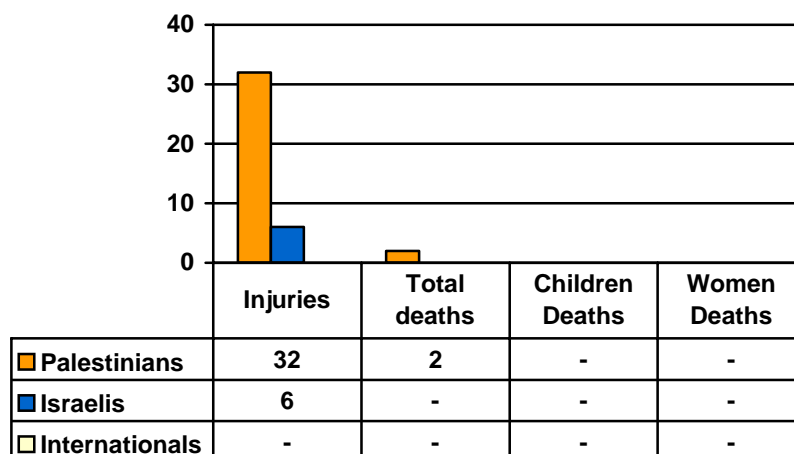
Inter-factional fighting in the form of armed clashes and abductions occurred again this week in the Gaza Strip with one Palestinian killed and 22 injured. The main junctions in Gaza City were closed for three days as a result and UNRWA operations in Beit Hanoun were also affected. An international BBC journalist was kidnapped by unidentified men and his whereabouts remains unknown.

**West Bank:**

- A Palestinian man died in Israeli Police Custody in East Jerusalem allegedly after being beaten by officers following his arrest for reportedly carrying West Bank Palestinians in his taxi and refusing to stop following an order from the Israeli Police.
- The IDF closed two Islamic charities, Beit Fajjar Zakat Committee and Dar Al-Qur'an, along with their kindergartens until further notice, affecting some 300 children.
- Access to the Old City of Jerusalem on Friday was prohibited for the fifth consecutive week to all Palestinians except Jerusalem ID card holders above the age of 50 and residents of the Old City.
- An increased number of IDF 'flying' or random checkpoints (148) were again observed this week throughout the West Bank compared to 131 the previous week.
- PA employees in the West Bank suspended work in all governmental departments due to the delay of salary payments, in addition to the health sector strike ongoing since mid-February 2007.

**Gaza Strip**

- A 19 year-old boy was killed and another arrested by IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence northeast of Bureij Camp. Two Palestinian fishermen were also injured when IDF gunboats opened fire at three fishing boats in Rafah. The IDF opened fire a total of eight times at Palestinians either from the border fence or out at sea.
- Nine homemade rockets were fired towards Israel, one of which landed in a Palestinian area, and an anti-tank missile was fired at an IDF observation post in Beit Hanoun. The IDF also fired on a rocket launch site.
- On four occasions the IDF conducted levelling and excavating operations in Beit Hanoun, east of Al Qarara, and Bureij Camp. The IDF also discovered and detonated two roadside bombs and an improvised explosive device (IED).

**1. Physical Protection<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Note that this excludes casualties resulting from Palestinian-Palestinian (internal) violence reported in Section 2.

**West Bank:**

- **7 March:** At 11:30am in Wadi el Joz in Jerusalem, Palestinians demonstrated against the excavation and construction near Al Aqsa mosque. Israeli policemen fired tear gas canisters and stun grenades at the demonstrators and one Palestinian was reported injured.
- **7 March:** At 2:50pm at Qalandiya (Ramallah) checkpoint Palestinians stoned IDF soldiers and two IDF soldiers were reported injured. The IDF responded with live rounds though no Palestinians were reported injured.
- **8 March:** Four Palestinians (three boys aged 14(2) and 16 years and a 60 year-old man were injured in Tubas city (Tubas) by live ammunition when the IDF opened fire at Palestinian stone throwers.
- **8 March:** At 5pm, two Palestinian males were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets after being shot by the IDF during a search and arrest campaign in Beituniya (Ramallah).
- **8 March:** At 4:20pm in Beituniya (Ramallah) Palestinians stoned IDF soldiers. The IDF responded with live rounds injuring two Palestinians.
- **8 March:** At 4:30pm in Abu Dis (Jerusalem), a Palestinian was reported injured by the IDF while trying to climb over the Barrier.
- **9 March:** 14 Palestinians and two Israeli activists were injured by rubber-coated metal bullets when a group of Palestinian, Israeli and international activists demonstrating against the construction of the Barrier in Bil'in (Ramallah) clashed with the IDF. Several cases of tear gas inhalation were reported and two IDF soldiers were injured by stones.
- **9 March:** At 12:45pm at Qalandiya (Ramallah) checkpoint Palestinians stoned IDF soldiers and the IDF responded with live rounds and rubber-coated metal bullets; three Palestinians and one IDF soldier were reported injured.
- **10 March:** At 1:00pm a 32 year-old male Palestinian taxi driver from A Tur neighbourhood in Jerusalem was arrested and reportedly assaulted by the Israeli Police in the Salah el Din Street Police Station. He was allegedly arrested for carrying West Bankers in his taxi and refusing to stop following an order from the Israeli policemen. He died later while in police custody.
- **10 March:** At 4:10 pm in A Tur neighbourhood of Jerusalem, Palestinians stoned Israeli policemen following the death of a Palestinian man in police custody. Israeli policemen responded with tear gas canisters and stun grenades although no injuries were reported.
- **12 March:** Three Palestinian males (from one family) aged 15, 19 and 54 years were physically assaulted in Marda (Salfit) by the IDF. The IDF entered the family house during a search campaign allegedly after Israeli vehicles were stoned on Road 55 near the village.
- **13 March:** An Israeli female settler was injured near 'Awarta village (Nablus) when Palestinians opened fire at her vehicle while driving on the bypass road to Itamar settlement.

**Gaza:**

- **9 March:** A 19 year-old Palestinian man was killed and a 17 year-old Palestinian boy arrested by IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence northeast of Bureij Camp after they fired in the direction of the two Palestinians approaching the fence allegedly to cross into Israel.
- **11 March:** Two Palestinian fishermen were injured when IDF gunboats opened fire at fishing boats. Local reports indicate that the three Palestinian fishing boats off Rafah had lost their way at sea. Meanwhile the Israeli media, reporting IDF sources, stated that Palestinian motor boats were seen approaching the Egyptian shore to join an Egyptian boat apparently in a smuggling operation.

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **9 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at an observation post east of the Shouka area opened fire for ten minutes in the direction of a group of farmers. No injuries were reported.
- **10 March:** IDF vessels fired several shells at fishing boats west of Al Waha resort in Beit Lahia. The fishing boats returned to the shore. No injuries or damage were reported.
- **10 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at an observation post east of Al Qarara opened fire in the direction of a group of farmers. No injuries were reported.
- **10 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at an observation post east of Al Shouka area in Rafah fired five tank shells into the open areas. No injuries were reported
- **11 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at the border fence east of Rafah discovered and detonated a roadside bomb in open area near the Green Line. No injuries were reported.
- **12 March:** Palestinian militants fired an anti-tank missile at an IDF observation post near the border line north of Beit Hanoun. No injuries were reported.

- **12 March:** IDF stationed at Sufa military base opened fire in the Al Omour area south of Sufa crossing for 15 minutes. No injuries were reported.
- **13 March:** IDF soldiers stationed at an observation post east of Al Qarara opened fire in the direction of a group of farmers. No injuries were reported

## **2. [Palestinian internal violence and other incidents](#)<sup>2</sup>**

### **Gaza Strip:**

- **7 March:** A 42 year-old PA Intelligence Security member died of wounds sustained during inter-factional clashes on 2 February when the ESF entered a PA Intelligence Security base in Jabalia camp.
- **7 March:** A PA National Security member was abducted by four unknown gunmen in Nuseirat Camp. At 11pm he was released after the abductors beat him and broke his hands. The motive is unknown.
- **7 March:** Two Palestinian bystanders were injured from stray bullet-fire when Al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades members visited the family home of an Islamic Jihad member in Nuseirat Camp who died on 5 March when an explosive device he was handling prematurely exploded. Brigades members opened fire into the air.
- **8 March:** A 61 year-old Palestinian man died after being crushed in a crowd when Rafah crossing terminal reopened. Nine others were also injured.
- **11 March:** A 26 year-old ESF commander was killed and eight others injured including a second ESF member in serious condition during armed clashes between the ESF and the Fatah-affiliated family in Beit Hanoun. At 6:45am armed factional clashes expanded to Beit Hanoun village and the ESF closed the roads leading to the village. Local reports said that four homes belonging to Fatah members were damaged by IEDs and that both the PA National Security Force base and the PA Force 17 base were set ablaze. At 11:30am the armed clashes ceased and the roads reopened.
- **9 March:** Two Palestinians were injured in Sheikh Zayed City northeast of Beit Lahia by unknown gunmen. A man was abducted and beaten and shot in the leg and a bystander was also shot and injured. Both were taken to Kamal Adwan Hospital. Local reports link the attack to an honour-related crime.
- **8 March:** A 14 year-old boy died of wounds he sustained during the armed clashes between ESF and the Kaware' family in Khan Younis on 24 February.
- **10 March:** A University Student Council member was injured when unknown individuals entered Al Quds Open University and opened fire at him. Security members at the university then opened fire on the unknown attackers although no further injuries were reported. Local reports state the motive was a dispute over a scholarship.
- **11 March:** A local family member was abducted and beaten by gunmen from another family in Khan Younis. He was later released and local reports link the attack to the family dispute.
- **11 March:** A Palestinian man was beaten by unknown armed masked men in the Al Qarara area in Khan Younis. He was taken to Naser Hospital for treatment. Local reports state the attack was due to an honour-related crime.
- **12 March:** A bystander was injured in the head during an exchange of gunfire between ESF and Fatah members on Al Masryeen Street, east of Beit Hanoun.
- **12 March:** A Palestinian woman was abducted by unknown gunmen in Beit Lahia – she was beaten and shot in the leg before being taken to Shifa hospital. Local reports link the attack to an honour-related crime.
- **13 March:** Three Palestinians were injured during armed clashes between Hamas and Fatah militants in Beit Hanoun. Hamas gunmen also opened fire at the home of one of Fatah members in Beit Hanoun. Fatah members retaliated by firing an RPG at the home of one Hamas member. Minor damage was reported.
- **13 March:** An ESF member was injured in the hand during training at a Hamas military base west of Rafah.

<sup>2</sup> Casualties recorded in this section relate to Palestinian inter-factional fighting, family and community disputes and reckless use of weapons. Also reported in this section are casualties indirectly related to the conflict such as incidents involving Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), traffic accidents between Israeli and Palestinians in the oPt and deaths resulting from delay in receiving medical treatment at a checkpoint or during a military operation/curfew. These casualties are not recorded in the total in Section 1.

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **8 March:** An explosive device was detonated at the main gate of a video store in the Al Falouja area in Jabalia Camp. Minor damage was reported.
- **8 March:** PA National Security Forces members closed Omar El Mukhtar Street (from the Rashad Al Shawa Cultural to the Rimal Police Station) in protest at deductions the bank reportedly took from their allowances in payment for debt they had accumulated. At 1:30pm the road was reopened.
- **8 March:** PA National Security Forces closed the main entrance to Bureij Camp on Salah Ed-Din road in protest at the non-payment of salaries. At 12:50pm the road reopened.
- **8 March:** Four masked men stopped the vehicle of the director of Sufa Crossing and stole his vehicle. The motive behind the incident is unknown. .
- **10 March:** An explosive device was detonated near the main gate of a Jawwal cellular phone store in Jabalia Camp. Minor damage to the store was reported.
- **10 March:** An explosive device was detonated in front of a grocery shop, located in the Shejayeh neighbourhood of Gaza City. The entrance to the shop was damaged and the motive behind the incident is unknown.
- **10 March:** 300 people from the PRC staged a sit-in in front of the office of the Egyptian Representative in protest at Palestinians who are not able to travel to Egypt. At 1:15pm, the sit-in ended peacefully.
- **10 March:** 300 newly-graduated Fatah security members demonstrated in front of the Middle Area Governorate, demanding to be recruited into the PA security apparatus. At 11:30am the demonstration ended peacefully.
- **11 March:** PA National Security Forces closed the main junctions around the Sarayeh compound and Omar El Mukhtar street (from the Rashad Al Shawa Cultural Centre to the Rimal Police Station) as a result of the Hamas-Fatah violence in Beit Hanoun.
- **11 March:** ESF members opened fire on the PA National Security Forces base on Al Masryeen Street east of Beit Hanoun. There was an exchange of gunfire between the rival factions for 15 minutes. Islamic Jihad members intervened and brought the situation under control. No injuries were reported.
- **11 March:** An RPG was fired at the home of Fatah activist in Beit Hanoun. The entrance to the home was damaged although no injuries were reported. The motive behind the incident is unknown.
- **12 March:** 500 family members of Palestinian prisoners serving sentences in Israel demonstrated to demand the release of their relatives. The demonstration started at the ICRC office and proceeded to the Unknown Soldier Park. The demonstration ended peacefully.
- **12 March:** 1,000 newly-graduated Fatah security members demonstrated in front of the Rafah Governorate to demand positions in PA security forces. The demonstration ended peacefully.

**West Bank:**

- **10 March:** Palestinian gunmen from the Fatah party opened fire at members from Hamas in Áqqaba (Tubas). Two Palestinians aged 20 and 33 years were injured by shrapnel.

Other incidents (not involving casualties):

- **10 March:** Palestinian gunmen fired at a Palestinian security building in Jenin City (Jenin) and forced the employees to leave their offices. Gunmen distributed notices around the building declaring government offices closed and demanding payment of their salaries.
- **11 March:** An exchange of fire between Hamas and Fatah supporters was reported for a short of period in Nablus city. No injuries were reported.
- **11 March:** Armed men opened fire at the Arab Bank in Tulkarm causing minor damages.

### **3. Shelter and Property**

No reported demolitions of Palestinian structures.

Other incidents related to shelter and property (not involving demolitions):

- **7 March:** The IDF welded shut the doors to the Beit Fajjar Zakat Committee and the kindergarten associated with it in the village of Beit Fajjar (Bethlehem). Files and computers were confiscated. A military order was placed on the front door of the

kindergarten that indicated the closure of the Committee until further notice. The closure of the kindergarten affected 150 to 200 children some of whom are orphans.

- **7 March:** The IDF welded shut the doors to the Dar Al Qur'an Charitable Society and the kindergarten associated with it until further notice in the village of Al Khadr (Bethlehem). The closure of the kindergarten affected 140 children.
- **8 March:** IDF soldiers raided the village of Zif, east of the town of Yatta (Hebron), damaged two cars and broke the windows of a nearby mosque. According to Palestinian sources, the soldiers threatened to demolish the mosque if there were any stone throwing incidents. Later it was reported in the Israeli press that an investigation has been launched and that the company commander involved in the incident has been suspended until completion of the investigation.
- **13 March:** Israeli settlers from the settlement of Avraham Avino, located in the H2 section of Hebron city (Hebron) attacked and prevented Palestinian workers from continuing the renovation of a deserted home of a Palestinian family that is adjacent to the settlement.
- **13 March:** Israeli settlers from the settlements of Tel Rumeida, located in the H2 section of Hebron city (Hebron), threw stones and empty bottles at Palestinian homes in the vicinity of the Jewish Cemetery in Hebron. Palestinians responded by throwing stones at the settlers.

#### **4. [Natural Resources](#)**

##### **Land levelling/Requisitions/Tree Uprooting<sup>3</sup>**

###### **Nablus Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 15 January 2007 the IDF have continued to level eight dunums of land near Huwwara checkpoint to expand the checkpoint. The land belongs to Palestinians from Burin village and was earlier requisitioned on 10 July 2005 (Military Order T/106/05).
- Since 17 September 2006 land levelling continues for a road barrier installed north of Road 505, east of Za'atara checkpoint.
- Since 15 June 2006 land levelling has continued north of Shave Shomeron settlement (west of Nablus) to install a fence.

###### **Jenin Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

###### **Tubas Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

###### **Tulkarm Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Land levelling continues around Avnei Khefets and Enav settlements for the construction of a new fence.

###### **Qalqiliya Governorate:**

**8 March:** The IDF issued an amendment to the order T/20/95 requisitioning 17.4 dunums to expand the DCO military base near the eastern entrance of Qalqiliya. The land belongs to Palestinians from Qalqiliya city and 'Azzun village.

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: land levelling and construction work continue near Immatin village, between 'Azzun and Kafr Thulth and between Azzun and Kafr Laqif.

###### **Salfit Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: Israeli contractors continue construction and land levelling north of Salfit City, Iskaka and Deir Istiya villages and south of Marda and Kifl Haris villages around Ariel settlement.

<sup>3</sup> 4 dunums = 1 acre; 10 dunums = 1 hectare

**Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

## Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues between Kharbatha al Misbah and Bil'in and is in the final stages in the section between Beit 'Ur al Fauqa and At Tira villages.
  - The Barrier construction and what is called by the IDF the "special security arrangement" around Ateret settlement is completed. A fence now encircles the settlement on land earlier requisitioned by the IDF and belonging to Palestinians from Atara and Umm Safa villages.
  - The last section of the Barrier in Beit Sira village is complete between Beit Sira and Makkabim settlement. A 400-metre section between the village and Beit Nuba is under construction and a gate is being installed.
  - Following a decision by the Israeli High Court approving a new route of the Barrier in 'Abud, construction resumed parallel to bypass Road 465, as well as between 'Abud and Ofarim and Beit Arye settlements.

**Jerusalem Governorate:**

## Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues along the projected route in the Jerusalem governorate. Exceptions to this are northeast of Al 'Eizariya towards Ma'ale Adummim settlement. Construction continues along 3 km stretch of the Barrier south of Ma'ale Adummim and Kedar but has stopped since 3 March 2006 pending a court case.
  - Construction near Ar Ram checkpoint between Dahiyat Al Bareed and Atarot is ongoing. Only one detour between the neighbourhoods of Ar Ram and Dahiyat Al Bareed remains possible due to the continued construction. Even pedestrians have been prevented from going through these areas this week and clearly the Barrier will soon seal off this neighbourhood entirely from Ar Ram and the West Bank and encompassing it into Jerusalem. The once-open area through the wall is now a 'Gate' sealed off with a large iron wall, vehicles are currently using a rough road a few meters beyond the gate. Construction of the Barrier in this neighbourhood is progressing at a rapid pace.
- The construction of a road barrier continues on Road 1, east of Az Za'ayyem. Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards driving to Jerusalem now have to drive south to Ma'ale Adummim and then return through Az Za'ayyem checkpoint.
- Construction of an Israeli police station in E1 continues.
- The road between Anata and Al 'Eizariya is under construction (Road 70). Another road (Road 80) is planned that will link Abu Dis to Road 1 east of the planned Barrier around Ma'ale Adummim. The road will be open for Palestinians only.

**Jericho Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Bethlehem Governorate:**

## Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction:
  - Construction continues next to Al Khadr Boys School along the eastern side of Road 60 adjacent to the school playground.
  - Land levelling continues in the section of Road 60 between the Palestinian village of Al Khadr and Al Nashshash (southern entrance of the city of Bethlehem).
  - Land levelling continues in the vicinity of the settlement of Har Gilo.
  - Land levelling continues in the vicinity of the settlement of Efrat, near Artas village.
  - Land levelling and digging for the construction of the tunnel near Al Khadr village has accelerated. Levelling is also taking place along the western side of Road 60. Concrete partitions were placed during the reporting period. Additional sections of the Barrier have been erected in this section during the reporting period.
- Paving continues on the side of Tunnels checkpoint to expand the site. Six lanes have been paved so far and four inspection cabins were installed.

- Work continues on the road leading to the Talita Khoumy School. A one-metre high road barrier was installed and land levelling has continued on both sides of the road.
- Land levelling continues for the construction of the new terminal next to Al Jab'a checkpoint.
- Construction work at Nu'man terminal is ongoing.

### Hebron Governorate:

**13 March:** The IDF and Border Police removed two caravans from the Avigail outpost, located south of the town of Yatta (Hebron). A Border Policeman was lightly injured and a Civil Administration car damaged as a result of a clash between the Israeli settlers and security forces.

Ongoing incidents:

- Barrier construction: construction continues west of Eshkolot settlement.
- Land leveling including paving continues west of the checkpoint of Tarqumiya for a new commercial checkpoint.
- Construction of the agricultural terminal at Meitar checkpoint is ongoing.
- Paving continues at the Beit Yatir checkpoint close to the Palestinian hamlet of Imneizil. An observation tower was installed and the terminal is almost complete.

### Gaza Strip:

**7 March:** Four IDF armoured personnel carriers and one bulldozer moved from the border fence, entering 200 metres into the Palestinian area east of Beit Hanoun to conduct a levelling and excavation operation.

**8 March:** One IDF tank and two bulldozers entered 100 metres into the Palestinian area east of Bureij Camp to conduct a levelling and excavating operation.

**11 March:** One IDF tank and two bulldozers entered 100 metres into the Palestinian area east of Bureij Camp to conduct a levelling and excavating operation. At 11:30am the IDF discovered and detonated IED.

**13 March:** Two tanks and one bulldozer moved from the border fence and entered 50 metres into the Palestinian area east of Al Qarara where they conducted a levelling and excavation operation. The IDF also discovered and detonated two roadside bombs.

## 5. Access and Movement for Civilians

### a) Curfew

| Date              | Location, Governorate   | Duration       |
|-------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| 12 Mar            | Huwwara Village, Nablus | 4 hours        |
| <b>Total Week</b> |                         | <b>4 hours</b> |

**12 March:** The IDF imposed a curfew on Huwwara village (Nablus) for four hours after an Israeli vehicle was stoned on Road 60 passing through the village.

### b) Access to education

**7 – 13 March:** During the reporting period the IDF and Israeli Police came late on an average of one hour to escort Palestinian students from their elementary school in At Tuwani (south Hebron) to their homes in Tuba and Magyar Al Abid. The escort has been provided since 2004 to protect the students from attacks by Israeli settlers from the Ma'on settlement.

**7 March:** The IDF arrested 13 students from Al 'Arrub Camp (Hebron) while en route to their school in the town of Beit Ummar (Hebron). Eleven of them were released nine hours later and the remaining two were released two days after their initial arrest.

**11 March:** Eight UNRWA schools and one UNRWA Health Centre were disrupted in Beit Hanoun due to Hamas-Fatah factional violence. The UNRWA school closures affected at least 8,106 students and 253 teachers.

**13 March:** The IDF entered Idhna Elementary School for Girls in Idhna, Hebron following a stone-throwing incident at IDF jeeps patrolling in the town. Tear gas canisters were fired and a number of cases of suffocation were reported. Several girls in the first and second elementary classes were injured.



**c) Access to employment**

**Ongoing since 16 February to date:** The PA health sector in the West Bank remains on strike. The governmental hospitals and the MoH clinics are on strike in the West Bank except for the emergency departments at the hospitals. The health clinics will open once every two weeks for vaccination and to distribute medicine for chronic diseases.

Ongoing incidents:

- All Palestinians must apply directly to the DCL offices in the Jerusalem peripheries to obtain Israeli permits. The criteria for people to be eligible for an Israeli permit are similar for both workers and traders; a Palestinian should be above 35 years old, married with a child and with no security file. Criteria to apply for work permits inside Atarot industrial zone; a person should be above 21 years old, married with a child.

**d) Closures/movement restrictions**

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 12 March 2006 no Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip have been able to access employment opportunities inside Israel.

**Nablus Governorate:**

**7 March:** The IDF closed Huwwara checkpoint for one hour and declared the area around it a closed military area during a demonstration against the closures around Nablus city.

**10 March:** The IDF closed Qusin checkpoint and since this time has diverted commercial trucks to Beit Iba checkpoint.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close Shave Shomeron checkpoint for all vehicles, including UN and humanitarian organisations.

**Jenin Governorate:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 30 August, the IDF have allowed 40 commercial trucks (with a freight load of under two tonnes) to transport food products to Barta'a enclave. A list with the plate numbers of the trucks is present at the checkpoint. Other materials still require prior coordination.

**Tubas Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Tulkarm Governorate:**

**1- 4 March:** The IDF prevented Palestinians with Israeli IDs from entering Tulkarm city.

**Qalqiliya Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Salfit Governorates:**

**10 March:** The IDF closed Marda gate at the entrance of the village preventing the access of residents for three hours in the evening.

Ongoing incidents:

- The IDF continues to close the gate at the northern entrance of Kafr ad Dik.

**Ramallah / Al Bireh Governorate:**

**8 March:** At 2.30pm, the Beit El DCO checkpoint was closed for 30 minutes following a shooting incident. No injuries were reported.

**During the reporting period:** Delays (average 15 minutes) at Atara Checkpoint were reported on daily basis.

**Bethlehem Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

**Hebron Governorate:**

No incidents to report.



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**Jerusalem Governorate:**

No incidents to report.

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**Jericho Governorate/Jordan Valley:**

Ongoing incidents:

- Since 9 January, Bisan checkpoint, north of Tubas, is open for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel using a back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of BMC cards (traders permits) in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint.
- Since 14 September 2006, the IDF announced that only Palestinians with Jericho residency and Jerusalem ID and residents of Bethlehem and Hebron holders would be able to exit via the Jericho DCO checkpoint, forcing all others to either request a permit or travel on the Al Mu'arrajat old road to reach the rest of the West Bank. Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayem and As Sawahira village are allowed to exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.

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**Gaza Strip**

During the reporting period:

- Karni crossing was closed on 10, 11 and 12 March (on 12 March the crossing was closed due to a strike on the Palestinian side by drivers and crossing workers).
- Erez crossing was partially open for the movement of diplomats, international humanitarian workers, critical medical cases and Palestinian 'senior' traders. (Non-diplomats require prior coordination with the IDF which is being decided on a case-by-case basis). The crossing continues to be closed for Palestinian workers (since 12 March 2006).
- Nahal Oz energy pipelines were open for six days (the pipelines are scheduled to be closed on Saturdays).
- Sufa crossing only opened on 7 March. The crossing remained closed since 8 March following an attack on the director of the crossing.
- Kerem Shalom was open on 7 and 8 March.
- Gaza fishermen are permitted to fish up to six nautical miles off the coastline.

Ongoing incidents:

- Following Israel's unilateral disengagement from the Gaza Strip in September 2005, the IDF announced that Palestinians should keep a distance of at least 150 meters from the perimeter fence along the eastern and northern borders of the Gaza Strip
- On 28 December 2005, the IDF declared the former northern settlement bloc to be a 'no-go' zone. Officially, entry into the area for the 250 residents and international organisations requires prior coordination with the IDF, however this is not enforced.

**Reported flying (random) checkpoints – West Bank**

| Governorate             | Location, # of flying checkpoints in brackets  | Total # of flying checkpoints |
|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Nablus                  | Al Badhan (1)  | 1                             |
| Jenin                   | 'Arraba (7), Az Zababida (4), Sanur (5), Ash Shuhada (1), Sir (1), Al Jalama (1), Al Mansura (1), Fahma (2), Ajja (1), Al Kufeir (1), Az Zawiya (1), Rummana (1), Arab as Suweitat (1), Jenin south entrance (1) | 28                            |
| Tubas                   | Tubas (1), Tammun (1), Aqqaba (2)  | 4                             |
| Tulkarm                 | Zeita (1), Attil (3), Balá (1), Kafr Sur (2), Kafr Jammal (1), Farún (1)   | 9                             |
| Qalqiliya               | Entrance Qalqiliya – DCO (7), Ázzun (7), Habla tunnel (7), An Nabi Elyas (3), Al Funduq (3), Jayyus (4), Kafr Thulth (1), Ras Átiya (2) Ázzun tunnel (2), Izbat at Tabib (2)                                     | 38                            |
| Salfit                  | Iskaka (1), Deir Istiya (3), Marda (1), Bruqin (1)   | 6                             |
| Ramallah / Al Bireh     | -  | 0                             |
| Jericho / Jordan Valley | -  | 0                             |
| Jerusalem               | Al Ram (7)   | 7                             |
| Bethlehem               | Al 'Ubeidiya (2), Za'tara (2), Bethlehem city (4), 'Ayda refuge camp (2), Al Khadr (4), Beit Jala (3), Ad Duheisha (2), Beit Sahur (2), Tuqu (3), Husan (1), Beit Fajjar (2)                                     | 27                            |
| Hebron                  | Yatta (3), Dura (3), Hebron city – H1(5), Halhul (2), Al Arrub refugee camp (3), Sa'ir (2), Surif (2), Adh Dhahiriya (4), Bani Na'eem (1), Tarqumiya(1), Beit Ummar (3)  | 29                            |
| <b>Total West Bank</b>  |  | <b>149</b>                    |

**6. Additional Protection Issues****Searches/Arrests/Detentions**

| Governorate                 | Location of arrests/detention, number of searches noted at locations with brackets   | Total # of Searches | Total # of Arrested/ Detained |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| Nablus                      | Nablus city (6), Balata refugee Camp (2), Áskar camp (1), Taluza (1), Yasid (1), Áwrta (1), Al Badhan CP, Zaatara CP, Huwwara CP   | 12                  | 25                            |
| Jenin                       | Jenin city (5), Jenin RC (5), Bir al Basha (1), Qabatiya (1), Az Zababida (1), Al Yamun (3), Silat al Harithiya (1), Salem CP, Arab as Suweitat flying CP, Sanur flying CP.  | 17                  | 41                            |
| Tubas                       | Tubas (4), El Fará camp (1), Tammun (2)  | 7                   | 5                             |
| Tulkarm                     | Tulkarm city (4), Tulkarm refugee camp (2), Farún (2), Átill (1), Qaffin (1), Shuweika (2), Iktaba (1)   | 13                  | 8                             |
| Qalqiliya                   | Qalqiliya (7), 'Azzun (7), Jayyus (1), Kafr Qaddum (2), Kafr Thulth (2), Habla (2) Ázzun flying CP   | 21                  | 12                            |
| Salfit                      | Salfit (1), Marda (3), Kifl Haris (1), Deir Istiya (1)   | 6                   | 1                             |
| Ramallah/Al Bireh           | Ramallah (3), Deir Ibzi' (1), Deir Ammar, Bir Zeit   | 4                   | 9                             |
| Jericho<br>Jordan Valley    | -  | 0                   | 0                             |
| Jerusalem                   | Wadi el Joz, Jerusalem, Eizariyya (1), Abu Dis   | -                   | 8                             |
| Bethlehem                   | Beit Sahur (2), Al 'Aza refugee camp (1), Dar Salah (1), Al 'Ubeidiya (1), 'Ayda refuge camp (2), Al Khadr (3), Beit Jala (2), Za'tara (2), Bethlehem (3), Tuqu (1), Ash Shawawra (1), Beit Fajjar (3), Husan (1), Beit Jala (2) | 25                  | 18                            |
| Hebron                      | Hebron City (4), Al 'Arrub Camp (2), Dura (2), Beit Awwa (1), Yatta (2), Adh Dhahiriya (2), Sa'ir (2), As Samu (1), Bani Na'eem (1),   | 17                  | 43                            |
| <b>Total Week West Bank</b> |  | <b>127</b>          | <b>150</b>                    |
| <b>Gaza Strip</b>           |  |                     |                               |
| Middle Area                 | Bureij Refugee Camp  | -                   | 1                             |
| <b>Total Gaza Strip</b>     |  | <b>0</b>            | <b>7</b>                      |
| <b>Total oPt</b>            |  | <b>127</b>          | <b>157</b>                    |

## Appendix: Checkpoints: 7 March – 13 March 2007

| Checkpoint   | Status   |
|--|--|
| <b>Tulkarm:</b>  |  |
| <b>Efrayim</b>   | Open from 5am to 6:30pm Sunday to Thursday and 5am to 12pm on Fridays for Palestinian workers and traders.   |
| <b>Kafriat</b>   | Open 24 hours. The checkpoint is manned and physically divided into three parts: one that controls movement to and from Tulkarm town; one that controls movement to Israel; and one that controls movement to and from Jbara.  |
| <b>Kafriat Tunnel</b>  | The checkpoint is controlling all traffic heading south from Tulkarm including residents of Jenin.   |
| <b>'Anabta</b>   | The checkpoint is located on the eastern entrance of Tulkarm on Road 57.   |
| <b>Qalqiliya:</b>  |  |
| <b>Jaljoulia</b>   | Open 24 hours. Access through this checkpoint is only granted for holders of permits into Israel and residents of Ras Tira, Ad Dab'a, Wadi Ar Rasha, Ramadin and Arab Abu Farda. Ambulances from Qalqiliya town to these five villages need prior coordination with DCL. Only vehicles leaving the West Bank are subject to security checks.   |
| <b>Qalqiliya North</b>   | Open from 4am to 7pm Sunday to Thursday and from 4am to 12am on Fridays for Palestinian permit holders.  |
| <b>Jit junction partial checkpoint</b>   | Partial checkpoint at the key junction connecting the governorates of Nablus, Qalqiliya and Tulkarm.   |
| <b>Salfit:</b>   |  |
| <b>Deir Ballut</b>   | Open from 6am to 6pm. The checkpoint controls movement between Ramallah and the villages in the western part of Salfit governorate.  |
| <b>Kafr Qasem (Road 5)</b>   | Open 24 hours for UN, international organisations and Palestinians with permits.   |
| <b>Nablus:</b>   |  |
| <b>Huwwara</b><br>Southern main entrance   | Open from 6am to 11pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only after prior liaison with the IDF. Public transportation and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint between 6am and 9pm. Commercial trucks are not allowed to pass. On 7 March closed for one hour. Delays and long queues reported this week.   |
| <b>Beit Iba</b><br>Western entrance, mainly for trade  | Open from 5am to 7.30pm for humanitarian organisations and Palestinians. Israeli citizens, Palestinian holders of Jerusalem IDs and holders of international passports can pass only following prior liaison with the IDF. Long delays and queues were reported. Public transportation, commercial trucks carrying aggregates and private vehicles need permits to pass the checkpoint. Since 10 March, 120 commercial trucks using special permits to use Taybeh back to back CP were diverted to Beit Iba after closing Qusin CP. Delays and long queues reported this week. |
| <b>Al Tur</b><br>Southern checkpoint connecting the Samaritan area of Jarzim with Nablus City                                | Open 6am to 6pm from Sunday to Friday for Samaritans and 13 Palestinian non-Samaritans families living east of the checkpoint.   |
| <b>Beit Furik</b><br>Eastern gate and checkpoint. After the closure regime main gateway between Nablus and the Jordan Valley | Open 5:30am to 9pm for villagers from Beit Furik and Beit Dajan. All residents heading south have to enter Nablus and cross through Nablus checkpoints.  |
| <b>Shave Shomeron (Closed)</b><br>Northwest, main road to Jenin  | Closed since 15 August 2005 for all traffic.   |
| <b>Zaatara (Tappouah)</b><br>South, main road to Ramallah  | Open 24 hours. The checkpoint controls Palestinian movement on Road 60 and 505 southwards and no need for permits. Delays and long queues reported this week.  |
| <b>17' 'Asira ash Shamaliya (Closed)</b><br>Road to the north villages of Nablus   | The checkpoint is only open for humanitarian organisations and humanitarian emergency cases.   |
| <b>Yizhar partial checkpoint</b>   | Partial check point north of Huwwara village on Road 60.   |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Aqraba partial checkpoint</b>  | Partial check point on the junction to Aqraba village with Road 505.  |
| <b>Al Badhan partial checkpoint</b>   | Partial checkpoint on Road 57 leading to the Jordan Valley, Tubas and Jenin.  |
| <b>Jenin:</b>   |   |
| <b>Al Jalama</b> Main entrance to Israel  | Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday and 7am to 12am on Fridays.  |
| <b>Imreiha (Reikhan)</b><br>Main gate to the Barta'a ash-Sharqiya/ Umm ar Rihan enclave | Open between 7am to 9pm. Open for all goods from Israel into West Bank. 40 vehicles with their plate numbers on a list at the checkpoint are allowed to transport foodstuff into the closed area behind the Barrier. Other materials need prior coordination.   |
| <b>Mevo Dotan (New)</b> on road 585 near Ya'bad   | Open from 7am to 7pm for all Palestinians   |
| <b>Tubas:</b>   |   |
| <b>Bisan</b><br>Main entrance to Israel   | Main entrance to Israel Bisan checkpoint is north of Tubas. Since 9 January the cp is officially open between 10am to 6pm Sunday to Thursday, 6am to 12pm on Fridays and closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Opened for Palestinian merchants from the Jordan Valley and Jericho to export their agricultural produce into Israel via Bisan using the back-to-back system. Palestinians from the West Bank in possession of businessman cards, in addition to an Israeli permit, are allowed through this checkpoint into Israel. Palestinians working for international organisations continue to be prohibited from using Bisan checkpoint. |
| <b>Tayasir</b><br>Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley.    | Gate to the Tubas eastern agricultural lands in the Jordan Valley. Officially open between 5am-10pm. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Very long delays are reported on daily basis.   |
| <b>Maale Efrayim</b><br>Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus                         | Southeast connecting Jericho and Nablus. Officially open between 6am-10pm. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks.   |
| <b>Hamra</b><br>East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin           | East, before closure regime main road to Jordan, Tubas, Jenin. Officially open between 3am-10pm. Closed for Palestinians unless they have a Jordan Valley address on their ID cards or in possession of an Israeli permit to allow them to be present in the Jordan Valley areas. Same restrictions applied to commercial trucks. Delays for Palestinian commercial vehicles crossing the checkpoint are reported on a daily basis.   |
| <b>Ramallah/AI Bireh:</b>   |   |
| <b>Qalandiya</b>  | Open for internationals, Jerusalem blue ID holders and Palestinians with West Bank IDs. Only drivers of vehicles and their family members are allowed through inside the vehicle. Passengers, both West Bank ID holders and Jerusalemites, have to cross through the pedestrian lanes. As of 10 December, Israeli private Security Guards are present at the checkpoint at a second line behind the IDF for extra random security checks. Long delays are being reported on a daily basis.  |
| <b>Bet El/DCO</b>   | From 20 August the checkpoint has been in operation from 6am to 8pm. Access in vehicles is reserved only for diplomats, foreign passport holders, UN staff, international humanitarian organisations, and Palestinians with special work permits.   |
| <b>Atara Bridge</b>   | Manned by Border Police. No permits required to cross the checkpoint. As of 1 December, random checks of Palestinian vehicles and IDs going through the checkpoint in both directions. Delays were reported on daily basis.   |
| <b>An Nabi Salih gate (partial)</b>   | Open. Delays up to 20 minutes were reported on daily basis during travelling rush hours.  |
| <b>At Tayba (partial)</b>   | Open. Some delays reported.   |
| <b>Makkabim</b><br>On Highway 443   | Usually open for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders and foreign passport holders. Road 443 is off-limits to West Bank Palestinians, except those with permits to enter Israel/Jerusalem.  |
| <b>Ni'lin</b>   | Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders. Palestinians with West Bank IDs not allowed through regardless of any valid permits to enter Israel.  |
| <b>Rantis</b>   | Open daily 24 hours for Israelis, Jerusalem ID holders, foreign passport holders and Palestinians with permits to enter Israel.   |

**Jerusalem:**

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|--|---|
| <b>Hizma</b><br>Eastern entrance of junction<br>Road 437/Psigat Ze'ev<br>settlement                    | Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Since 3 February 2006 West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross through this checkpoint unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders). The head of the East Jerusalem Hospital Network reported that medical staff have not been permitted to use Hizma, and that in fact the Commander-in-Chief of the checkpoint claimed that the decision of allowing the medical staff to use it had been reversed. |
| <b>Az Za'ayyem</b><br>North eastern entrance on<br>Road 1.   | Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem, West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross unless they belong to one of the new 'facilitated' categories; Palestinians working in international organisations, medical staff, chronic patients, teachers and prominent businessmen (BMC Card holders).   |
| <b>Ar Ram</b><br>Northern entrance on Road 60<br>north.  | Open for internationals, diplomats, Palestinians working with international organisations and residents of the southern part of Dahiyat al Bareed (soon to be within the Barrier) with their names and ID numbers registered on a list held at the checkpoint. As this is not one of the four terminals into Jerusalem West Bank Palestinians with valid permits are not allowed to cross. Delays were reported during morning rush hour. Problems of access were reported by Americans carrying passports with valid entry visas.  |
| <b>Bir Nabala / Atarot</b><br>Northern entrance on Road<br>404 /45 Road Atarot Junction.               | Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards, and Palestinians with valid permits and internationals. UN staff have been requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card. Delays are experienced on daily basis due to the fact that each passing vehicle is undergoing a check. Palestinians from West Bank cities outside of Ramallah, attempting to enter Bir Nabala through this checkpoint have been refused entry on several occasions allegedly for having no permits.  |
| <b>Ramot Alon</b><br>North western entrance on<br>Road 436   | Open for Israelis, Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards and internationals. UN staff requested on several occasions to show personal ID/national passports in addition to their UN ID card.   |
| <b>Shu'fat Refugee Camp/<br/>Anata Checkpoint</b>  | Open 24 hours for Palestinians with Jerusalem IDs and UN and international organisations; Palestinians from the West Bank need a permit. West Bank vehicles are not allowed. Commercial trucks are not allowed through this checkpoint unless the merchandise itself is from Shu'fat camp. All other commercial trucks from the West Bank must use Beituniya checkpoint.  |
| <b>Container ("Wadi nar")</b><br>East of Abu Dis, main transit<br>between north and south West<br>Bank | Open for all Palestinian vehicles without permits and for internationals. Israeli yellow-plated cars are not allowed to cross.  |
| <b>Ras Abu Sbeitan (Olive)</b><br>North eastern entrance on<br>Road 1                                  | Open 24 hours, Palestinians pedestrians with West Bank ID cards with valid permits can use the checkpoint. No vehicles are allowed through this checkpoint.   |
| <b>Abu Dis</b><br>Between Abu Dis and Ras al<br>'Amoud   | Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.  |
| <b>Lazarus</b>   | Closed. Access only for military and Barrier construction contractors.  |
| <b>Bir Nabala / Rafat</b><br>At the new road between<br>Rafat and Bir Nabala village                   | Delays are experienced on daily basis due to the fact that each passing vehicle is undergoing a check.  |
| <b>Jaba'</b><br>At the road between Jaba'<br>Junction and Qalandiya<br>checkpoint                      | Random checks by the IDF soldiers. Some delays were reported.   |

**Jericho:**

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| <b>DCO</b><br>Main checkpoint off Road 1 | Main checkpoint off Road 1. Open daily 24 hours. No permits required for Jericho residents and foreign passports and Palestinians with Jerusalem ID cards. As of 14 September, West Bank ID holders need permits to leave Jericho via the DCO. All vehicles including public taxis and commercial trucks have to have checkpoint permits to exit Jericho via this checkpoint unless they have Jericho or Jerusalem |
|--|--|

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|--|---|
|  | registration. Palestinians employed by international organisations, humanitarian workers and residents of Abu Dis, Ash Sheikh Sa'd, Al 'Eizariya, Az Za'ayyem and As Sawahira village are allowed to exit Jericho via the DCO checkpoint.   |
| <b>Al Auja (Yitav)</b><br>On Road 90   | Open 24 hours for Palestinians living in Jericho Governorate. Palestinians non-residents of Jericho and hold West Bank IDs going north towards al Auja and the Jordan Valley area are prohibited though unless they hold Israeli permits to allow them access to the area. No permit required for those travelling to Ramallah. Long delays up to 40 minutes were reported by people travelling to Ramallah and Al 'Auja.   |
| <b>Gate opposite Allenby</b><br>Checkpoint off Road 90                                       | Gate manned by the IDF. Closed at all times. Soldiers open the gate for shuttle busses taking Palestinians to Allenby Border crossing to Jordan.  |
| <b>An Nwemeh (partial)</b><br>North Jericho  | Open. No soldiers present this week. The checkpoint leads to al Mu'arajat road; the only road to Ramallah at the moment.  |
| <b>Bethlehem :</b>   |   |
| <b>Gilo (Rachel's Tomb)</b><br>Terminal at north entrance to Bethlehem leading to Jerusalem. | Open 24 hours for humanitarian organisations, diplomats, Jerusalem ID holders and Palestinians with valid permits. West Bank Palestinians (including those working for the UN and other international agencies) have to walk through the terminal to undergo search procedures. Jerusalem ID holders passing into Bethlehem are being asked to prove that they reside in areas falling within Jerusalem boundaries. Yellow-plated tourist buses are allowed to enter Bethlehem only if driven by an Arab Israeli. Palestinians holding valid work permits can access East Jerusalem and Israel through this checkpoint. UN national staff can pass through the checkpoint without having to be physically checked. The checkpoint is currently manned by the Israeli Border Police. |
| <b>Khallet an Nu'man</b><br>On the main entrance of Khallet an Nu'man from Beit Sahur side . | Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Only Palestinians living in the village, listed vehicles and drivers of service providers are allowed through. Extended family members are not allowed to visit Palestinian residents. International organisations wishing to enter the village are required to hold a permit, show their organisation's ID and their national IDs and/or passports.   |
| <b>Ein Yalow</b><br>Bypass road east of Walaja, on Green Line                                | Open 24 hours for Israeli-plated cars and international organisations only. Commercial trucks also are allowed to go through.   |
| <b>Beit Jala DCO</b><br>Entrance to Beit Jala  | Rarely-manned and open 24 hours. Movement allowed in both directions for all vehicles.  |
| <b>Tunnels</b><br>Road 60 at Har Gilo  | Open 24 hours for international members of international humanitarian organisations. Palestinians with permits are not allowed to cross and are redirected to Gilo checkpoint. The checkpoint is still used by Jerusalem ID holders and will remain the main access point for commercial goods originating from Palestinian areas into Jerusalem. UN staff are being requested to show additional identification in order to proceed to Jerusalem. Commercial trucks are only allowed to go through between 11am and 4pm. Security at the checkpoint is now jointly managed by a private security firm and the border police. On 23 February the IDF began manning the Tunnel terminal.   |
| <b>Settlers' Checkpoint – Efrata</b><br>Southern entrance to settlement                      | Open 24 hours. Checkpoint manned by Israeli settlers with movement beyond it restricted for Palestinians.   |
| <b>Gush Etzion</b><br>On Road 60, at Etzion turn   | Open 24 hours. IDF soldiers checking northbound vehicles. Private Palestinian plated cars can pass.   |
| <b>Wadi Fukin</b><br>Crossing to Israel on Road 375, Green Line                              | Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations.  |
| <b>Al Jab'a</b><br>Crossing to Israel on Road 367, Green Line                                | Open 24 hours for Israelis and staff of international organisations. Land levelling is ongoing to enlarge the checkpoint.   |
| <b>Ein Gedi</b><br>On Road 90, along Dead Sea.   | Open 24 hours; restricted for Palestinian movement.   |
| <b>Hebron :</b>  |   |
| <b>Beit Awwa</b><br>At entrance to Negohot settlement, on Road 354                           | Crossing along Road 354. Manned by the Israeli Border Police. Open from 7am to 7pm.   |
| <b>Tarqumiya</b><br>Entrance for commercial goods  | Workers are usually allowed to cross from 5am to 5pm. The back-to-back section is open from 7am to 5pm; goods are moving across   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| (back-to-back), west of Hebron on Road 35 for both Hebron and Bethlehem governorates | smoothly and all cargo is checked by the IDF Military Police. Family visits to Palestinians detained in Israel were permitted. Agricultural products destined for Gaza and Israeli markets were allowed to go through.  |
| <b>Meitar</b><br>Crossing to Israeli. Road 60 on the Green Line                      | Manned by Border Police. Open 24 hours. On 25 May 2006, the IDF relocated the checkpoint close to the new Meitar Terminal. As of 20 August 2006, Palestinians holding valid work permits were allowed access to Israel through this checkpoint. 2   |
| <b>Shani</b><br>At turn for Shani settlement on Road 317.                            | Manned by the IDF. Only Israeli plated cars are allowed to travel through it. Palestinian workers cannot use the checkpoint to access Israel. A pre-existing tower in front of the checkpoint has been significantly increased in height.   |
| <b>Beit Yatir</b><br>On Road 316, at the turn for Imneizel                           | Open 24 hours and manned by the IDF. The checkpoint is restricting the movement of Palestinians living south of it next to the settlement of Beit Yatir. Next to the checkpoint construction work is taking place for the construction of a new terminal.   |
| <b>Prayers Road, H2</b><br>Access to area of Ibrahimi Mosque                         | Closed to Palestinians. During the reporting period, both Israeli settlers and IDF soldiers prevented Palestinian residents from accessing this road.   |
| <b>Shohada street, H2</b><br>Western entrance to Shohada street                      | Open to Palestinians living beyond it and in the Tel Rumeida area in accordance with a list held by the IDF at the checkpoint. Access possible only on foot. Palestinians and internationals have to go through a mobile metal detector.  |
| <b>Ibrahimi Mosque, H2</b><br>Access to the Mosque                                   | Worshippers and visitors are searched upon entry. Residents living in the vicinity of the Mosque must hold a special permit to gain access to their homes.  |
| <b>Bab Al Baladiyye , H2</b><br>Next to settlement of Beit Romano                    | The checkpoint is closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and a new gate has been installed across the road blocking physical access towards it. A mobile metal detector unit was occasionally in use during the reporting period, as IDF soldiers were searching Palestinians trying to access the Old City and the Ibrahimi Mosque.   |
| <b>Qarantina, H2</b><br>Junction with Shohada Street                                 | Closed to Palestinians. Entry point for Palestinian fire trucks and ambulances. No longer allowed for the use of international humanitarian organisations, though the TIPH have reported being able to use it.  |
| <b>Bab Al-Khan, H2</b><br>Entrance to Avraham Avinu settlement                       | Closed to Palestinians heading in the direction of Shohada Street and north toward the market.  |
| <b>Tel Rumeida, H2</b><br>Beginning of street leading to settlement                  | Open only to Palestinians travelling on foot living between the checkpoint and the settlement. A military order was issued on 17 July 2006 that declared the area beyond the checkpoint as a "Closed Area" barring the entry of anyone beyond the checkpoint except Israeli citizens, IDF and Israeli Police or those who have an IDF-issued permit.  |
| <b>Al Kasaba, H2</b><br>Exit from the Kasaba, old city (Tomb of the Patriarchs)      | Permanent checkpoint which filters Palestinian movement from the Kasaba area directed to the Tomb of the Patriarchs. Movement is segregated for incoming and outgoing movement. Palestinians exiting Kasaba are processed through a combination of turnstiles, allowing one person at a time to pass, and a metal detector. The process is slow and problematic during Friday prayers. During the reporting period long queues of Palestinians wanting to access the Ibrahimi Mosque for prayers were reported as IDF soldiers checked their IDs. |
| <b>Abu Rish, H2</b><br>Near the Abu Rish Mosque at the end of Al Shohada St.         | Manned by the IDF. The only access point for international organisations into Hebron Old City. Palestinians have to go through a mobile metal detector.   |
| <b>Ar Ramadin</b><br>At the entrance to Ar Ramadin village from Road 325             | Manned by the Israeli Border Police. All Palestinians are allowed after an ID check. The checkpoint also restricts the movement of Palestinians and Arab Israelis on Road 325. Harassment of commuters and long search process took place during the reporting period   |
| <b>"Nabi Younis"</b><br>Halhul - Sa'ir Junction on road 60                           | Partial checkpoint at the entrance to Halhul, monitored from the nearby observation tower.  |
| <b>Al Fawwar</b><br>Al Fawwar-Dura junction on road 60                               | Partial checkpoint monitored from the nearby observation tower.   |
| <b>Tarqumiya – Idhna</b><br>The junction between the two towns on Road 35            | Partial checkpoint. Manned on a temporary basis by the Israeli Border Police.   |
| <b>Ras Al Joura</b><br>Near the junction between                                     | Partial checkpoint. Manned on a temporary basis by the IDF.   |



## Road 35 and Road 60

**Gaza Crossings/Checkpoints**

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Erez crossing</b>            | <p>Closed for Palestinian labourers since 12 March. Open for internationals and Palestinian humanitarian cases.</p> <p>Since 12 September 2006, a limited number of Palestinian traders again able to enter Israel. The crossing point is only open to 'senior' traders i.e. over 35 years, married, with children. Erez was open all week for internationals, traders and medical cases with the following breakdown of Palestinian movement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 March: 375 merchants and 31 senior traders crossed.</li> <li>• 8 March: 425 merchants and 27 senior traders crossed</li> <li>• 9 March: 311 merchants and 24 senior traders crossed</li> <li>• 10 March: 73 merchants and 9 senior traders crossed.</li> <li>• 11 March: 417 merchants and 31 senior traders crossed</li> <li>• 12 March: 298 merchants and 32 senior traders crossed</li> <li>• 13 March: 375 merchants and 34 senior traders crossed.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Rafah Passenger Terminal</b> | <p>Rafah crossing point continues to fail to operate continuously:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7, 10, and 13 March: Rafah terminal was closed.</li> <li>• 8 March: Rafah terminal was open in both directions from 9:30 – 11:00 (Entries: 590 and Departures: 507).</li> <li>• 9 March: Rafah was open in both directions from 9:00 -19:00 (entries: 350, departures: 1,215).</li> <li>• 11 March: Rafah terminal opened from 16:00 - 18:00 for departures only (496 departures).</li> <li>• 12 March: Rafah was open in both directions from 9:00 -17:00 (entries: 252, departures: 1079).</li> </ul>  |

**Commercial checkpoints:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Tulkarm/Qalqiliya</b>  |  |
| <b>Taybeh</b>   | An Israeli private company has the responsibility of controlling the checkpoint. The back-to-back system has been operational from 8am to 5pm Sunday to Thursday and 8am to 12pm on Fridays.   |
| <b>Nablus</b>   |  |
| <b>Awarta checkpoint</b><br>Main commercial checkpoint in Nablus since July 2003. | Open from 6am to 5pm, Sunday to Thursday, Friday from 6am to 2pm and closed on Saturday. Commercial trucks need permits to pass the checkpoint.  |
| <b>Qusin Checkpoint (NEW)</b>   | Open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm for Palestinian plated commercial trucks with permits. The checkpoint is on the road leading to road 60/55 to Tulkarm, Qalqiliya and the rest of the West Bank south of Nablus. On 10 March to date closed and commercial trucks diverted to Beit Iba checkpoint.   |
| <b>Jenin</b>  |  |
| <b>Al Jalama</b><br>Main commercial check point.                                  | Open between 7am to 4pm Sunday to Thursday and 7am to 12pm on Fridays.   |
| <b>Ramallah/AI Bireh</b>  |  |
| <b>Beituniya</b><br>Back-to-back checkpoint                                       | Officially open between 7am to 5pm Sunday to Thursday, 7am to 1pm on Fridays and closed Saturdays and Jewish holidays. Open for commercial goods and a back-to-back system is in operation. Only Palestinians holding Jerusalem IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed to pass through this checkpoint without using the back-to-back system. Palestinians holding Israeli IDs and driving Israeli yellow-plated trucks are allowed through without using the back –to-back system only if bill lading stipulates Kafr 'Aqab and /or Sameeramees offloading destination. This checkpoint is not open for private cars or pedestrians. UN staff are allowed through the checkpoint following prior coordination with the Israeli DCL. |
| <b>Gaza Strip</b>   |  |
| <b>Sufa</b>   | Sufa was open on 7 March. On 8 March it was close due to the attack on the director of the crossing and remains closed.  |
| <b>Karni</b>  | Karni was closed on 10, 11 and 12 March this week. On 12 March the crossing was closed due to a strike on the Palestinian side (drivers and crossing workers).   |
| <b>Kerem Shalom</b>   | Kerem Shalom opened on 7 and 8 March.  |
| <b>Nahal Oz Energy Pipelines</b>  | Open all the week, except on 10 March when the crossing is scheduled to be closed.   |

## – End –

**Method and Sources**

The information used to compile these Briefing Notes comes from a range of sources with a field presence in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The accuracy of the reported information is ensured through the corroboration of reports by two additional sources. Typically, the OCHA Field Coordination Unit (FCU) receives an initial incident report from a source, which is verified through visits to the incident site in addition to further corroboration with a third source, such as an NGO. In addition, OCHA FCU collects military orders as documentary evidence and provides information on incidents witnessed in person.

In the interests of timeliness and readability, the sources are not listed for each incident within the texts of the report. Listed below are the sources relied upon each week in compiling this Briefing:

- Physical protection: OCHA FCU, Palestine Red Crescent Society (PRCS), United Nations Relief Works Agency (UNRWA), World Health Organization (WHO), Israel Defence Forces (IDF) website, Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), offices of Palestinian Authority (PA) governors, Palestinian District Civilian Liaison (DCL).
- Shelter and property: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Natural Resources: OCHA FCU, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils, Land Defence Committee and Land Research Centre.
- Access for Medical Assistance: OCHA FCU, WHO, PRCS, Palestinian Ministry of Health (MoH), UN World Food Programme, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UNRWA.
- Access and Movement for Civilians: Sources: Palestinian DCL, Christian Peacemakers Team (CPT).
- Curfews: OCHA FCU, Village Councils, UNRWA, Palestinian DCL.
- Access to Education: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, UNICEF, Palestinian DCL, Village Councils.
- Access to Employment: UNRWA, United Nations Office of the Special Coordinator for the Middle East (UNSCO), Palestinian Ministry of Labour (MoL), Palestinian DCL, Palestinian Chamber of Commerce, Israeli DCL.
- Closures/Movement Restrictions: OCHA FCU, UNRWA.
- Additional Protection issues: OCHA FCU, UNRWA, United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), UNSCO, Palestinian DCLs, Palestinian Governors' offices, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights, IDF.